

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
/061 W

-----019986 290940Z /15

P R 290840Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0170
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2569

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT KS
SUBJ: KIM TAE-CHUNG RESIGNS FROM NDP

1. SEVERAL SOURCES CONFIRM THAT KIM TAE-CHUNG HAS RESIGNED FROM OPPOSITION NDP, CITING "PERSONAL REASONS" FOR HIS DECISION. NDP ASSEMBLYMAN YI T'AEK-TON (KIM'S LAWYER) CARRIED KIM'S RESIGNATION LETTER TO NDP HEADQUARTERS ON EVENING OF 3/28.

2. THERE ARE SEVERAL THEORIES ADVANCED (ALL SPECULATIVE AT THIS STAGE) OVER KIM'S MOTIVE FOR RESIGNATION AT THIS TIME. ONE VIEW SEES KIM DIVORCING HIMSELF FROM INVOLVEMENT IN ANY POSSIBLE MOVE TO NOMINATE HIM AS NDP PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE SEES KIM DISASSOCIATING HIMSELF FROM NDP HEAD YI CH'OL-SUNG'S MODERATE POLICIES AND ALIGNING HIMSELF WITH THOSE, SUCH AS THE YAT'U GROUP, WHO CALL FOR OPPOSITION PARTY TO NOMINATE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE AND ACTIVELY CONFRONT THE GOVERNMENT. A THIRD INTERPRETATION IS THAT KIM HAS MOVED TO DISASSOCIATE HIMSELF FROM FRACTIOUS AND WEAK NDP, PERHAPS WITH IDEA
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OF FORMING ANOTHER OPPOSITION PARTY. POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT KIM AND ROKG HAVE STRUCK A DEAL, AND KIM'S RESIGNATION IS A PRELUDE TO HIS RELEASE FROM PRISON, BUT EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION ON THIS LATTER POSSIBILITY FROM ANY SOURCE.

3. EMBOFF HAS 3/30 MEETING WITH YI T'AEK-TON AND WILL

OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION. WE WILL ALSO CONTACT KIM'S WIFE AT FIRST AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY, AND ATTEMPT TO VERIFY KIM'S MOTIVES AND PLANS.

4. KOREAN MEDIA HAS STORY OF KIM'S RESIGNATION BUT NO REPORT HAS BEEN PUBLISHED OR BROADCASTED. SEVERAL SOURCES CONFIRM THAT ROKG HAS PUT LID ON THE NEWS FOR THE TIME BEING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, PARTY LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Line Count: 71
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: KIM TAE-CHUNG RESIGNS FROM NDP
TAGS: PINT, KS, NDP, (KIM TAE CHUNG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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